



# United States Department of the Interior



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge  
1390 Buskin River Road  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615-0323  
(907) 487-2600

February 4, 2003

Dear Ayakulik River User,

Thank you for helping Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game work to improve management of the Ayakulik River. This update is being sent to those who requested it, sent comment letters or attended the December 11, 2002 public meeting. Enclosed are summary notes from that meeting, along with a content summary of the letters received in response to my November 4, 2002 invitation and request for comments. The public meeting was attended by more than 50 people, and we received more than 80 comment letters.

On January 7, 2003 staff from the Refuge and ADF&G met with the Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee. We summarized results of the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and discussed the next steps to be taken cooperatively by the two agencies. Briefly, for the 2003 king salmon season, we propose to prepare an educational brochure; increase law enforcement and garbage management, particularly in the lower river; ask anglers to voluntarily refrain from camping at certain fishing holes; conduct a creel census/exit survey to obtain feedback on management; and inventory and map archaeological sites in cooperation with the Alutiiq Museum.

The Advisory Committee established a subcommittee to work with us on further details. This subcommittee met January 16, 2003. Mike Anderson was elected to Chair the group; Dave Jones was elected Vice-Chair. Discussion focused on how to address the concern, expressed by many who commented, that some groups monopolize the best fishing holes. The subcommittee identified six fishing holes where anglers will be asked not to camp during the peak of the 2003 king salmon season. We expect this subcommittee to continue working with us as we cooperatively refine our plans for management of the Ayakulik River.

Subcommittee meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be held February 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at the ADF&G office in Kodiak. A meeting is also scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>. Contact Len Schwartz or Donn Tracy of ADF&G's Sport Fish Division at 907-486-1880 for more information or you may contact Beth Pattinson of my staff at 907-487-2600, ext 240. Thank you for your continued interest in management of the Ayakulik River.

Sincerely,

Leslie Kerr  
Refuge Manager

Enclosures